Revision of text books

2892. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken by Government to review and revise text books especially of history and other social sciences and humanities so as to remove the objectionable material from these books; and

(b) what guidelines, if any, have been issued by the Central Government to the State Governments to undertake similar steps and to what extent these guidelines have been accepted and implemented by them?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) and (b) Government of India had through the National Council of Educational Research and Training initiated in 1981 a programme of evaluation of school textbooks to identify and eliminate materials and approaches which may directly or indirectly perpetuate communalism, casteism, regionalism, racialism. To begin with, this programme was confined to History textbooks and languages. It has been completed in almost all the States/Union Territories.

In 1985, in the second phase, States/Union Territories have been requested to undertake this programme in Geography, Civics, Sociology, Economics, etc. The programme is at various stages of implementation. The States/Union Territories have also been requested to have a bulletin system for continuous evaluation of textbooks as part of the system of textbook preperation and development.

At the University level, the University Grants Commission has issued guidelines to Universities for reviewing prescribed textbooks and other reading material in History and other subjects so that an unbiased and balanced interpretation of Indian History should emerge to strengthen the basic principles of unity and integrity and the secular character of the Indian society.

Government accommodation to railway employees

2893. SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the total number of employees working in the Department of Railways, including Zonal railways (zone wise) working for more than ten/fifteen/twenty years who have not been allotted Government accommodation/railway quarters so far;

(b) how many of them have their own houses at the place of posting and how many are having such accommodation on Power of Attorney basis; and

(c) whether Government propose to allot accommodation on priority basis to the employees, who neither own accommodation on ownership basis nor on Power of Attorney basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Medical Universities in the country

2894. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to establish Medical Universities in the country; and

(b) what are the names of the States having Medical Universities at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) The Medical Education Review Committee had recommended that the Central and State Governments should establish Universities of Health Sciences in order to bring about coordination between various educational and training institutions of the modern and various Indian Systems of Medicine, Nurses, Pharmacy, etc.

This recommendation has been accepted by the Government of India in principle. However, keeping in view the resources position, there is no proposal under consideration for setting up Centrally Controlled Medical Universities in the Country.

(b) According to information available, only the Government of Andhra Pradesh has set up a University of Health Sciences.

Circular railway for Hyderabad-Secunderabad

2895. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had directed the Southern Railway authorities to prepare a project report for a circular railway for the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad;

(b) whether it is a fact that the feasibility report was submitted to the Railway Board for its approval during December, 1984;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the State Government has also come forward to share the cost of the project; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons for delay in the implementation of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) At the instance and cost of Andhra Pradesh State Government, South Central Railway had carried out a techno-economic feasibility study for Circular and allied Rail Transit System for Hyderabad Metropolitan area and submitted in 1984 a report to the State Government and Railway Board.

(c) The State Government offered to provide only 25 per cent of the cost of the project.

(d) (i) State Government is yet to have a detailed project report cleared by Planning Commission.

(ii) The responsibility for development of Metropolitan Transport Systems for cities should largely devolve on various local agencies, including the State Government, such projects being meant for Socio-economic activity of the city.

Total production of sura and its alcohol content

2896. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of bottles of 'Mritsanjivini Sura' and 'Maha Drakshasav' produced in the country during the last three years, each year and upto 31st October, 1986 in 1986-87; and

(b) what is the percentage of alcohol content in 'Mritsanjivini Sura' and 'Maha Drakshasav'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) The licensing for the production of drugs of ISM is vested in State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. This Ministry has no information in respect of the quantity of individual drugs manufactured year-wise in the country.

(b) There is no specific limit of Alcoholic percentage according to Ayurvedic classics.

Delays, cancellations of IA flights

2897. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of frequent delays, cancellations and off-loading of passengers on midway stations by Indian Airlines;